

Message Text

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EXDIS

SECTO 41

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S JULY 18 MEETING WITH FONMIN KIM YONG SIK

1. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSION ON UN STRATEGY IN THE AFTERMATH OF PRESIDENT PARK'S JUNE 23 STATEMENT (SEPTEL), THE SECRETARY AND FONMIN KIM ALSO TOUCHED ON THE FOLLOWING MAJOR SUBJECTS:

A. RECIPROCAL CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST NATIONS:

2. FONMIN KIM STRESSED TO THE SECRETARY THE ROKG DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. HE EXPLAINED THAT ROK INTEREST IN IMPROVED RELATIONS IS BASICALLY FOR SECURITY REASONS, NOT SIMPLY FOR TRADE. ROKG HOPES THAT BY DEVELOPING TIES WITH MAJOR COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IT WOULD SERVE TO RESTRAIN ANY NORTH KOREAN AGGRESSION. HE ASKED FOR U.S. UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT.

3. THE SECRETARY INDICATED THAT THERE WERE THREE ASPECTS TO THIS PROBLEM. FIRST OF ALL, THE ROKG MUST REALISTICALLY EXPECT THAT ANY PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING TIES WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WILL BE SLOW UNTIL THE UN PROBLEMS ARE SETTLED. WE DO UNDERSTAND THE VALIDITY OF THE ROK POSITION ON RECIPROCAL RELATIONS AND, WE WILL TRY TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNIST NATIONS TO RECOGNIZE ROK. SECONDLY, IN TERMS OF U.S. POLICY TOWARDS NORTH KOREA WE WILL PROCEED

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WITH FULL RECOGNITION OF ROK WISHES. WE WILL NOT HAVE

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NORTH. HOWEVER, WE PROBABLY CANNOT PREVENT SOME PRIVATE CONTACTS BY BUSINESSMEN OR OTHERS. THIRDLY, WE WILL URGE FRIENDLY NATIONS NOT TO GO TOO FAST IN CONTACTS WITH NORTH KOREA AND WOULD TRY TO GET THEM TO RECOGNIZE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT COMMUNIST COUNTRIES TAKE SIMILAR STEPS IN ESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH ROK. SECRETARY NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT OUR EFFORTS MAY NOT BE SUCCESSFUL BUT WE CAN ONLY DO WHAT WE CAN.

4. FONMIN KIM INDICATED THAT ROKG IS NOW WORKING TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, INDONESIA, FINLAND AND EGYPT. HE EXPLAINED THE BACKGROUND TO PAKISTAN PROBLEM ASKING THAT WE USE ANY INFLUENCE WE MAY BE ABLE TO EXERT.

B. MODERNIZATION PLAN:

5. FONMIN KIM STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPLETION OF THE MODERNIZATION PLAN. THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT WE HAVE DONE EVERYTHING WE CAN THINK OF TO CARRY OUT MOD PLAN COMMITMENTS. HOWEVER, WE MUST ACCEPT AS A FACT OF LIFE THAT STRETCHOUT IS INEVITABLE. WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN, BUT IT WILL TAKE LONGER. SECRETARY ALSO NOTED THAT SCM WOULD DISCUSS MOD PLAN IN GREATER DETAIL.

C. SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE

6. FONMIN KIM GAVE PESSIMISTIC ANALYSIS CURRENT STATUS SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE. SAID, TO DATE, NEITHER COORDINATING COMMITTEE NOR RED CROSS TALKS HAD BEEN FRUITFUL AND ROKG INCREASINGLY OF OPINION THE NORTH IS NOT GOING TO ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT. THE SECRETARY DISCUSSED THE DESIRABILITY OF HIGHLIGHTING THE HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF ROKG POSITION AT THE RED CROSS TALKS BY PUBLICIZING SOME INDIVIDUAL CASESWHICH WOULD SHOW UP NORTH KOREAN INTRAN- SIGENCEANCE. HE HOPED THIS COULD BE DONE IN UNGA CONTEXT TO CREATE SUPPORT FOR THE ROK STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH TO THESE PROBLEMS. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE FONMIN AND AMBASSADOR HABIB WOULD FOLLOW UP ON THIS POINT.

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D. U.S. ECONOMIC MEASURES:

7. FONMIN KIM BROUGHT UP THE ROKG'S DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE U.S. CONTROL MEASURES ON SCRAP IRON. THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT SECRETARY DENT WOULD BE DISCUSSING THIS FURTHER WITH THE ROKG.
ROGERS

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